

MINUTES
City of Niagara
Regular City Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 20, 2024
Niagara City Hall
1029 Roosevelt Road
Niagara, WI 54151

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Mayor Joe Johnston, following the 5:00 p.m. Special Meeting. Present: Mayor Johnston, Alderpersons Lynn Burke, Dan Decker, Lisa Johnson, Glenn Lantagne, Don Shampo, Police Chief Angela Moreau, Assistant Police Chief Mike Chapman Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Audrey Fredrick; Public Works Coordinator Jim Stachowicz, Treatment Plant Operator Dave Dunlap

Excused: Alderperson Michael Darne

Also Present: Dean Zanon of Cedar Corporation, City Auditor Scott Sternhagen, Mark Moreau, Mike Nickels, Jenny Nickels, Tracy Daun

Present Via Teams Application: Thad Majkowski and Hannah Fitzpatrick of Cedar Corporation

A motion was made by Alderperson Shampo to approve the agenda. Alderperson Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderperson Decker moved to acknowledge the water system update presented by Cedar Corporation. Alderperson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City Auditor Scott Sternhagen of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP presented the 2023 audit results, noting that the water department is not generating enough revenue to meet current expenses; the sewer department is at the verge of breaking even. The overall financial condition of the City is good. No accounting issues or deficiencies were noted. The audit process went smoothly. Alderperson Decker moved to accept the report and Alderperson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Retiring Police Chief Angie Moreau was presented with a proclamation, honoring her 30-plus years of dedicated service to the City. Alderperson Decker made a motion to thank Chief Moreau and wish her a happy retirement. Alderperson Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There were no public appearances.

A motion was made by Alderperson Shampo and seconded by Alderperson Lantagne to approve the minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting of February 21, 2024. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Burke and seconded by Alderperson Johnson to pre-approve the bills for April 2024. Motion carried.

The reports were reviewed. Alderperson Decker moved to approve the reports as presented. Alderperson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reports from department heads or elected officials:

- Mayor Johnston
 - Environmental approvals are still being investigated for the proposed M.J. Electric expansion.

- Assistant Police Chief Chapman
 - Officer Tyler Parr has accepted a position with Florence County, his last day in the City will be in April.
 - A foundation has been established in honor of former resident Sally Ann Keating. Funds from the foundation, delegated by the Rainbow House Domestic Abuse Services, will pay for specialty training for Officer Rhianna Carne.
 - Letters for blight ordinance violations were sent.
 - Thank you to Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jenny Nickels for the assistance she is providing in reference to accessing department and state systems, based on her existing knowledge of these programs.

Alderson Decker moved to pass Resolution 03-20-24 *Approving the City of Niagara Adjusted Urban Area Boundary* as recommended by the Department of Transportation. Alderson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderson Shampo to approve the removal of Angela Moreau from the Police Department Credit Card and reissue it to Michael Chapman. Alderson Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderson Decker moved to hire Blake Holmes for the position of Public Works summer help. Alderson Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderson Lantagne to set the wage for summer help at \$15.00 per hour for the first year of service, and \$16.00 per hour for the second year. Alderson Burke seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with Aldersons Burke, Johnson, Lantagne and Shampo voting "AYE" for the \$15.00 wage, and Alderson Decker voting "NAY", as he recommended a \$16.00 starting wage. Motion carried for \$15.00 per hour.

Administrator Report - Audrey Fredrick

- The annual workers compensation audit is in progress.
- The Rural Development audit is complete and has passed review.
- A new credit card processing company will be providing an overview.
- Election Inspector training will take place on March 21.
- The public test of voting equipment is on March 25.
- Marinette County will be hosting a listening session at City Hall on March 27 regarding the proposed disposition plan of county-owned property.

Public Works Report- Jim Stachowicz

- Docks are placed at the river.
- The fence is being installed at the softball field; costs will be covered by the school and baseball league.
- The manhole reseal demonstration, performed by Summit Infrastructures, will be held on March 21. Other municipalities are expected to attend the demonstration.
- A sidewalk machine is available on the Wisconsin Online Auction site; it is used but in good condition. Jim and/or Matt will look at the machine and place a bid if applicable.
- The bleacher seats at Memorial Park will need to be replaced. There are a total of 80 seats, size 2 inches x 12 inches x 16 feet.
- The LED lights were replaced at City Hall; a rebate from Focus on Energy will be received.

Water and Sewer Report – Dave Dunlap

- All systems are being oiled and greased.

Committee Reports:

- Beautification – Lynn Burke
 - Light pole banners for spring and summer have been ordered.
 - Trees will be replaced at the waterfall, and the parking lot will be improved.
- Finance – Alderperson Decker
 - The audit and financial reports have been reviewed with all in good order.
- Parks – Alderperson Shampo
 - The ballfield is in good shape.

Alderperson Decker moved to set the next regular meeting date as Tuesday, April 16, following the annual Reorganizational Meeting at 5:00 p.m. The reorganization meeting is held on the third Tuesday of April by statute. Alderperson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderperson Johnson and seconded by Alderperson Burke to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.